GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
A B S T R A C T

Public Services – Revenue Department - Disobedience of Election Commission's directions by Sri P. Vidyasagarudu, Assistant Returning Officer for 115-Atmakur Assembly Constituency-cum-Tahsildar, Atmakur - Suspended from service – Disciplinary action initiated under Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991– Enquiry Officer appointed - Charges not proved – Reinstated into service - Further action dropped - Orders - Issued.

REVENUE (VIG.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.1017 **Dated:10-10-2019.**

Read the following:-

1. From Election Commission of India, addressed to CS, Govt of AP, Amaravathi, Lr No. 51/8/DA/2019-EMPS, dated: 25.04.2019.
2. G.O.Rt No.532, Revenue(Vig.I)Department, dated 25.04.2019.
3. G.O.Ms. No.296, Revenue(Vig.I) Department, dated 01.05.2019.
4. G.O.Rt No. 542, Revenue(Vig.I)Department, dated 01.05.2019.
5. Written statements of defence Sri P.Vidyasagarudu, Tahsildar(u/s).
6. G.O.Rt.No.766, Revenue (Vig.I) Department, Dt.19.07.2019.
7. G.O.Rt.No.767, Revenue (Vig.I) Department, Dt.19.07.2019.
8. Lr.Rc.No.A1/1209/2019, dt.17.09.2019 from the District Collector, SPSR Nellore along with Inquiry report of the Joint Collector, SPSR Nellore.
9. Representation dt.26.9.2019 from Sri P.Vidyasagarudu, Tahsildar(u/s).
10. Govt. Memo No.Rev-01-LANA0CCLE/51/2019, dt.4.7.2019.

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ORDER:-

Whereas, it has been brought to the notice of the Government vide letter 1st read above, that Sri P.Vidyasagarudu, Assistant Returning Officer for 115- Atmakur Assembly Constituency-cum-Tahsildar, Atmakur has failed to follow the procedure prescribed for storing of VVPAT slips after mock poll during commissioning of EVMs and VVPATs and some VVPAT slips related to mock poll conducted during commissioning of EVMs and VVPATS were found in the premises where commissioning of EVMs and VVPATs was conducted.

2. Government after examination of the matter, have placed Sri P.Vidyasagarudu, Asst. Returning Officer for 115-Atmakur Assembly Constituency-cum-Tahsildar Atmakur under suspension vide G.O. 2nd read above. Subsequently, common disciplinary proceedings were contemplated vide G.O.3rd read above against Sri S. Chinna Ramudu, former Revenue Divisional Officer, Atmakur, (u/s) and Sri P.Vidyasagarudu, former Tahsildar, Atmakur(u/s) who are jointly concerned in a disciplinary case under Rule 24 of APCS (CC&A) Rules 1991. In the G.O.4th read above, articles of charge was framed against Sri P.Vidyasagarudu, former Tahsildar, Atmakur, (u/s) under Rule 20 of APCS (CC&A) Rules 1991. The explanation submitted vide reference 5th read above by the charged officer is not convincing, the Government have appointed Joint Collector, SPSR Nellore as Inquiry Authority and the District Revenue Officer, Nellore as Presenting Officer vide G.Os.6th & 7th read above to conduct regular enquiry in the matter.

3. The Inquiry Authority & Joint Collector, SPSR Nellore in her Inquiry report vide reference 8th read above, has stated that the instructions of the ECI have been adhered strictly by the Delinquent Officer. When VVPAT mock poll slips, circulated in Social media for attention and political gains, the Charged Officer, who is not aware the incident, immediately responded and restored all mock polls slips which is proved by the Panchanama of present RDO, Atmakur, who was the Returning Officer during counting and that no election material were burnt which might have created troubles during counting. The fact that counting was conducted peacefully and that the statutory materials were intact steaks for it self. Hence, the Inquiry Authority has opined that it is only part of a human error out of oversight and labor by some lower level staff while undergoing such multifarious activities at a given point of time in conducting free and fair elections. Further she has stated that there is no inefficiency or poor performance of Returning Officer i.e., charged officer at any point of time in rendering election duties. She has also opined that the charged officer has conducted elections smoothly fairly and impartially and no untoward occurred on the day of poll or pre-poll at Atmakur Assembly Constituency or during counting. Hence, the Inquiry Authority in her findings stated that charge is not held proved.

P.T.O

4. Sri P.Vidyasagarudu, Asst.Returning Officer for 115-Atmakur Assembly Constituency-cum-Tahsildar, Atmakur(u/s) in his representation in the reference 9th read above, has requested to reinstate him in to duty and post him as per Govt. Memo 10th read above.

5. Government have after careful examination of the Inquiry report and representation filed the charged officer, have decided to revoke the suspension of Sri P.Vidyasagarudu, Tahsildar by reinstate him in to duty and drop further action against him as the charges are not proved.

6. Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (c) of Sub Rule 5 of Rule 8 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CC&A) Rules 1991, Government hereby revoke the suspension of Sri P.Vidyasagarudu, Tahsildar by reinstate him in to service and drop further action in the matter.

7. The Chief Commissioner of Land Administration & Special Chief Secretary, A.P., Vijayawada shall issue posting orders to him after receipt of the joining report.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

MANMOHAN SINGH
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri P.Vidyasagarudu, Tahsildar (u/s) through the Chief Commissioner of Land Administration & Spl.CS.,A.P., Vijayawada.
The Chief Commissioner of Land Administration & Spl.CS.,A.P., Vijayawada.
Copy to:
The Accountant General, Andhra Pradesh.
The Director of Treasuries and Accounts, Andhra Pradesh
The Pay and Accounts Officer, Andhra Pradesh.
The District Collector, SPSR Nellore.
The District Treasury Officer, SPSR Nellore.
The P.S to the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister (Revenue)
The P.S. to Special Chief Secretary to Government (Revenue)
The General Administration (Elections) Department
The Revenue (Ser-II) Department,
SF/SC

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER